

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device, comprising:

a first interface to an application which initializes access to the data and affords changes to the data;

a second interface to an access unit which provides access mechanisms for different memory structures, wherein the unit provides the application with appropriate data by accessing the access unit and affords changes to the data independent of changes made to the data via the first interface; and

a third interface to a consistency module for automatically updating changes to the data for further applications accessing the same data.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application is produced on an object-oriented basis, and the data are provided as required objects.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (previously presented): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application runs on the first data processing device in which the data are stored.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application runs on a second data

processing device and the data are stored in the first data processing device, the first and second data processing devices being connected to one another via a network.

Claim 6 (original): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the unit is arranged in the first data processing device.

Claim 7 (original): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first interface is used for connection to a network interface unit.

Claim 8 (original): A unit for managing data stored in a first data processing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein for a plurality of applications, each application has a respectively associated application-specific unit.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A system for managing data, comprising:
a unit for managing the data, the unit including a first processing device, a first interface to an application which initializes access to the data and affords changes to the data, a second interface to an access unit which provides access mechanisms for different memory structures, wherein the unit provides the application with appropriate data by accessing the access unit and affords changes to the data independent of changes made to the data via the first interface, and a third interface to a consistency module for automatically updating changes to the data for further applications accessing the same data; and

a second data processing device, wherein the application runs on the second data processing device and the data are stored in the first processing device, the first and second data processing devices being connected to one another via a network.